



January 13, 2005

2133
JTF

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PATENT APPLICATION OF: Richard Charles Vieregge

SERIAL NO: 10/025,868

ART UNIT: 2133

5 **FILING DATE:** 26 December 2001 **EXAMINER:** DILDINE JR, R STEPHEN

SUBJECT: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING PRE-EMPTIVE
PROTECTION SWITCHING

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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C., 20231, U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

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RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

This is a response to the Office Action mailed on 18 October 2004. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the detailed report and request that this application be amended in the following manner.

20 **In the claims:**

Claims 1,3,5,9,12,13,17,21 and, 22 have been amended.

Claims 2,4,6,7,8,14,15,16,20 and 23 have been canceled.

New claims 2a, 2b, 17a, 17b have been introduced.

25 **In the specification:**

Please replace page 14 with the replacement page 14 enclosed herewith.

On the replacement page 14, missing symbols have been introduced in equations (1) and (2), and a typo in equation (4) on page 14 has been corrected.